

Point Three

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The monthly magazine of TOC H 

Point Three

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Letters, articles and news items are welcomed, and should be addressed to the Toc H Editorial Office, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT (Telephone: 0296 623911)

Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement.

Point Three is available from the Toc H Publications Department, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT.

(Telephone: 0296 623911.)

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Toc H is a Movement of people who seek to build friendships, and offer service, across the barriers that usually divide us from one another. The basic unit is the group – at best a good cross-section of the local neighbourhood – which meets together regularly, and seeks to serve the community around it. Toc H was founded in 1915 by the Rev P B 'Tubby' Clayton, and since then has been providing opportunities for people to test the Christian way by practical experiment.

All members pledge themselves to try:

1. To welcome all in friendship and lessen by habit of thought, word and deed the prejudices which separate people.
2. To give personal service.
3. To find their own convictions while listening with respect to the views of others.
4. To acknowledge the spiritual nature of man and to test the Christian way by trying it.

This magazine is a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world as well as a record of Toc H service. Its title derives from the third of these Four Points.

Editorial

Strengthen the good things . . .

'Strengthen the good thing thus begun, that with gallant and high-hearted happiness . . .' Words deeply familiar to members of Toc H, whether they are said occasionally, weekly or daily, and we need to pay more attention to them than we have tended to do. Perhaps at New Year, when we're looking ahead to the development which should now follow upon Central Council, is a good time to do it. For Central Council itself looked forward to the future with rather more confidence than we have been used to seeing, and it will go down in my memory as a good occasion. Yes, we teetered on the brink of disaster, and yes, we knew more than one brush with despair when it looked as though good things were going to founder. I have to admit to having made a silent and purely personal change to the Toc H prayer once or twice during the weekend – *'Help us to get the good things started'* – for if we fudged the beginnings of important and creative developments discouragement would have claimed many. So often in the past our courage and commitment have both fallen short of the need of the moment, and we have either drawn back or gone forward with that kind of half-hearted commitment which leads, almost without fail, to failure and disappointment. This year, though, there was a significant change, for we found the courage, let enthusiasm speak and committed ourselves wholeheartedly to action. What we need to do now is to let that courage and enthusiasm loose in Toc H again, so that the good things which were begun in November can indeed be strengthened.

The place where that courage and enthusiasm is most commonly found is among the young, and that has always been true. Those who found in Talbot House a place of peace and light during the First World War were young men; those who caught the vision and brought it home with them to a society in desperate need of it were young men, and those who refused to let it die in those early days and helped it burst into new life were mostly young men. The great majority of them were under 25 years old, so that the new Toc H was a Movement of young people – a kind of revolution in the community which insisted, and proved, that Christianity was about more than going to Church on Sundays. It was a kind of revolution in the Church, which insisted, and proved, that people of widely differing convictions could yet live and work together in love and joy and peace. In its youthful enthusiasm it conquered most obstacles without realising, half the time, that they had ever been in the way at all. It was not perfect, or anywhere near it, but it was undoubtedly a good thing.

Slowly, over the last 25 years, projects have begun to re-awaken the awareness of that earlier courage and enthusiasm, and we have found it is still alive among our own younger generation. At Central Council this year Toc H committed itself to fuller recognition of that spirit, and has agreed that it will press on with National Projects Development. It is an exciting development, and one which should bear good fruit in the years ahead. For it to do that, however, it will need our continuing and wholehearted commitment right across the Movement.

It is, in the view of many, a lack of wholeheartedness which has bedevilled the development of Cuddesdon as a Centre in Toc H. From the beginning there was a feeling that if, after all, it didn't work out it could always be sold at a profit. The lack of confidence which that attitude betrayed soon made itself apparent in a lack of will to develop the physical resources of the Centre. (The willingness of so many to support the Chapel development stands in marked contrast to the resistance to spending Central Funds.) Serious lack of confidence in any project is the thing which is most likely to lead to its failure, and so it has almost proved with Cuddesdon. But perhaps there is yet time for courage and enthusiasm to show us the way, and perhaps we shall be able to look back on the 1986 Central Council as the turning point, not just for Cuddesdon, but for the Movement as a whole. With all my heart I hope so.

My New Year Resolution? To do what I can to strengthen the good things that we have begun. What about yours?

CRR

Cover picture

Kelly Griffin, aged two at Oatlands Branch Garden Party (August 1986).

Photo: Harrogate Advertiser

'In Focus'

'IN FOCUS' this month goes to Germany, and looks at the involvement of the Berlin Services Club in Tattoo 1986.



First, take about 10,000 bread rolls! Then find two helpers to make them more interesting.



Rehearsals are lengthy and breaks for food rare, so there is a steady flow of customers.



Everything has to be loaded into the mobile canteen, which then has to be on site in good time.



A break between performances. Don't let the uniforms fool you, Toc H hasn't been in Berlin that long!

'It is', observed Angus Laing, 'about time that Toc H Berlin qualified for a bit of PR from Point Three!' Enclosed in a large envelope were numerous pieces of paper and lots of photographs, all meticulously lettered, numbered and labelled, and all relating to the 1986 Military Tattoo in Berlin. An enormous amount of work goes into producing big shows like these, and one of the roles of our Services Clubs is to help to provide support to those who are taking part. The Services Clubs, of course, do far more than assist at spectacular events, and we shall hope to see some news of their more everyday activities in these pages at a later date, but this event is special.

General Assistant

£4,305 - £5,565

We need a General Assistant to help with the running of Cuddesdon House, near Oxford, for a period of 12 months. The work is of a residential/catering nature and the successful candidate will need to be able to offer basic cooking skills, and common sense; a clean driving licence would also be useful.

Accommodation may be available; and the annual leave entitlement is 20 days.

Apply with details of qualifications and experience to: Personnel & Training Officer, Toc H HQ, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT. Closing date for receipt of applications, 23 January 1987.



Renate, Angus' wife, busy in the souvenir shop.

After all of that there must have been some very tired members of staff - tired, and satisfied, too, in a way that all Toc H volunteers would recognise. For

letters of thanks from the British Commandant, Berlin, and the Chief of Staff left them in no doubt that all their efforts had been warmly appreciated.

Round and about

★ ★ ★ 50 years ago ★ ★ ★

What were you doing 50 years ago? Toc H was 21 then and the **Knighton Branch** was just being formed. One of the members was 19 year old John Perkins, who now lives in Weymouth. John sent this photograph of an early meeting, which happened before the Group had achieved Branch status. Do you recognise anyone? Thank you for the picture, John.

'Stamp Out Loneliness'

Help the Aged has launched a national 'Stamp Out Loneliness' Appeal in association with Stanley Gibbons which is to run until the end of January 1987.

People throughout the country have been asked to donate used and rare stamps as well as complete albums or collections. The stamps will then be sorted and graded for resale, and the funds raised will go towards providing much needed minibuses to help elderly people in Britain enjoy a more active and fulfilled role in the community.

This year marks Help the Aged's Silver Jubilee in which the Charity aims to increase public awareness of the needs of elderly people in the UK and overseas and we would therefore be very grateful for any support you can give us during this important year, particularly regarding our 'Stamp Out Loneliness' Appeal.

All donations of stamps can be sent to Help the Aged, 'Stamp Out Loneliness' Appeal, St James Walk, London, EC1R OBE.

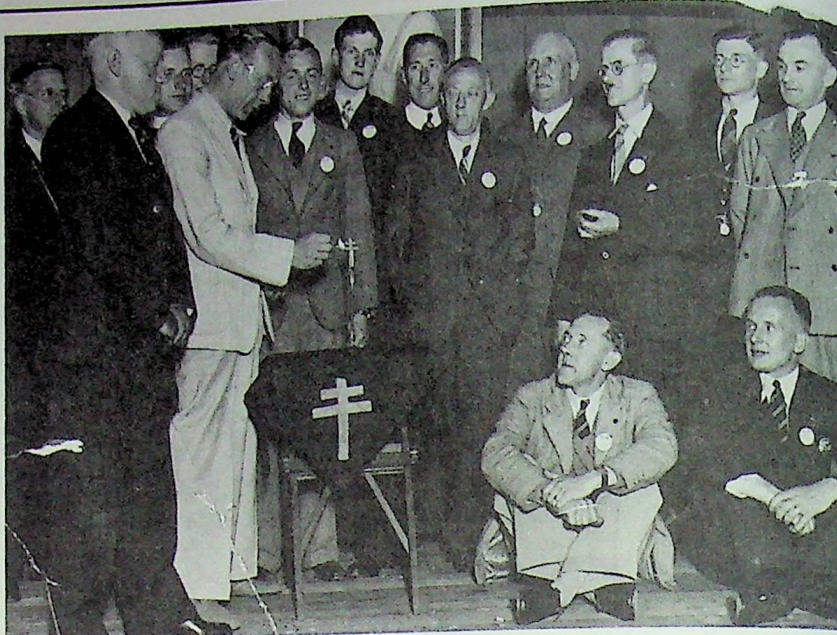
If you would like any more information regarding the Appeal, please contact Liz Juggins or Marie Zanelli at:

Help the Aged
St James Walk
London EC1R OBE

Toc H training videos

Some of you may have seen 'Had A Good Meeting?' (VHS, approx 25 minutes), the video produced at **Lindridge House** by Toc H members, volunteers and ourselves which was shown on Saturday night at Swanwick. It aims to encourage Branches and Groups to look at the way they run their own meetings in the light of a series of scenes portraying the affairs of the imaginary Lindridge Branch. It is light-hearted but raises some fundamental questions about how best to hold Toc H meetings; we believe it is a good starting-point for groups of members who wish to look at what happens in their own meetings.

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A second video, 'The Joy of Projects' (VHS, approx 20 minutes) looks at problems which can arise on Toc H residential projects by showing a series of difficulties encountered on an imaginary Conservation project at Lindridge House. Similar situations are shown being dealt with (or not . . .) in very different ways by the project leaders, both while the conservation work is in progress and at an evening 'debriefing' session. The video is again light-hearted but poses important questions for project leaders and volunteers. It could be a valuable starting-point for discussion at Project Leadership Training Weekends and such like.

These two videos are available for use whenever needed in the Movement. Two copies of each are held at Wendover and they can be borrowed by contacting Ray Cox at Headquarters. It is also possible to buy copies (either VHS or Beta) at £9.50 (including £1.50 postage) by contacting us here at Lindridge House before 1 January 1987 when we shall submit another order to the video-maker.

A Yorkshire weekend

At 5.30pm one September afternoon members of the **Huddersfield TAG** began collecting children! If that sounds like the beginning of a crime report, it isn't! Rather, it marked the start of a wonderful weekend of fun for a group of 13 deaf children and young people which was based at Colsterdale. You would have thought, perhaps, that a 9.30pm arrival would have been followed by supper, then bed, but not a bit of it. Supper, yes,

but bed? Well, I suppose they must have gone to bed at some time, but only after lots of noisy, hilarious games — oh, and a birthday cake!

Saturday included a visit to an entertainment park — which took up most of the day — followed by fish and chips back at the Centre. The evening was taken up with craft work — which must have meant that they were all sitting down at last!

Sunday morning saw the finishing touches being put to various mobiles, clowns and decorated cakes. Lunch was turkey (some weekend project, this!) and then the journey home. A wonderful weekend indeed!

Busy in Brisbane

We have received a neatly printed, six page annual report from Brisbane branch in Queensland, Australia. It tells a story of remarkable activity throughout the year and we can only pick out a few highlights. Like the Christmas party for prisoners' wives and children. Or the catering for a major Girl Guide event at which branch members, all dressed in Toc H T shirts, served 1,200 meals and uncountable numbers of teas, coffees and soft drinks. The branch has its own van and mobile freezer for such occasions and also took these to serve light refreshments at a Scout and Guide event for handicapped people — an event described in the report as 'an education in compassion and human relationship'. Not bad for a lot of oldies,' comments Roy Nieper, branch treasurer, who sent us the report. You can say that again, Roy.

Carnival time

It was Carnival time in Saltburn again, and Hemlington (Cleveland) Branch organised a day out for people who are housebound. After lunch at the Toc H Coach House in Saltburn the whole party moved on to the Carnival, where they were presented with posies of flowers, and recorded for posterity on video tape. Sounds like a good day.



New beds for Talbot House

Are you one of the many who have bruised their shins on the old bedsteads at Talbot House, Poperinge? If so, you'll be delighted to hear that plans are in hand to replace them all. This is the result of an initiative by the North Wales & North West Region, who are determined to raise enough money to replace all the beds by next summer. Already the first four have been bought. If you'd like to help, the person to contact is: Bert Hill, 228 Ben Davies Court, Underhill, Romiley, Stockport, Cheshire.

Meanwhile, we hear that the Friends of Talbot House has grown encouragingly in recent months. There are now 135 branches in membership as well as 158 individuals. The Friends have donated £1,000 to improve the hot water system in the house, which will add greatly to the comfort of all who stay there.

New beds and constant hot water – what more could anybody ask?

New life for old

Richard Fox, Chairman of Basingstoke Branch, goes out with the leaflet 'This is Toc H' once a week and knocks on people's doors to talk with them about the Movement. As you can imagine, he has many interesting encounters with all sorts of people. He has just written to tell of one house where he called where a combination of his visit and the words in the leaflet actually diverted a despairing young man from imminent suicide. That same young man now helps with the preparation of cassette tapes for the blind. 'Failure', says Richard 'is not defeat until you stop trying'.

Personality Point

Welcome

The following new members were registered during October/November:

Arthur and Mrs Enid F Bielby (Barrow-on-Humber J) Eric N C Oliver (Central) Mrs Lilian M Jarrard (Gorleston J), Ronald S Park (Great Harwood M), John E Parker (High Brooms M), Mrs Olive Cowling, Mrs Florence Punt (Honiton W), Miss Deborah Daynes (Leicester Clayton Centurions J Grp), Miss Ann Fagg (Maidstone Swan J) George and Mrs Ann Feaver, Vernon J Beauchamp (Seaford J) Mrs Lilian D Davie (Solihull W), Michael Blanckaert (Swans Poperinge J Grp) Ms Jacqui H Franklin-James (Thanet District) Mrs Carmen Geoghegan (Twydall J).

A warm welcome to 17 new members



John Biggerstaff, who has worked for Toc H in the Mid-Eastern Region for many years, has now moved to North Wales and North Western Region. Leicester Community House sent him on his way in style!

ALISON HOUSE

Details of our Spring and Summer activities are now available. These include:

Gardening Gala	1 - 3 April 1987	£15
* Easter Houseparty (led by Rev A Johnson and Rev C Rudd)	16 - 19 April 1987	£41.40
Poetry Weekend	1 - 4 April 1987	£41.40
Natural History Weekend	8 - 1 May 1987	£27.60
Activity Weekend	5 - 7 July 1987	£27.60

Our 'traditional' programme of week long activities continues for another exciting year. Each holiday has its own distinctive flavour from the contemplative to the extravagantly lighthearted. They all provide an opportunity for making new friends whilst enjoying the delights of Alison House and exploring the wealth of attractions in the locality. Accommodation is provided in Single or Twin bedded rooms, each with its own wash basin. There are comfortable lounges, and a variety of entertainments to amuse you. In addition to all this you'll find the food is really worth writing home about. Can you afford not to come?

Summer activities 1987:

Summer School	13 - 20 June	£85 plus Conference fee £5
John & Betty Cutt	11 - 18 July	£85.10
Joan & John Biggerstaff	18 - 25 July	£85.10
Painting Week (H Muscott)	1 - 8 August	£87.40
Marjorie Berry	8 - 15 August	£85.10
N Brew & B Dodgson	22 - 29 August	£89.70

For details, please send a SAE to: Derek Bartop, Alison House, Intake Lane, Cromford, Derbyshire DE4 3RH. Telephone: 0629 (Wirksworth) 2316.

* Further details on p15.

We will Remember...

Editor's Note:

Due to pressure of space, the Editor usually has to reduce the length of tributes sent in – and will continue to do so unless the author specifically requests 'All or nothing'!

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In May

Robert J Cornish (Stockport District)

In June

Reginald H Havercroft (Potters Bar & Wall Heath)

In September

Frederick G Bryant (Loughton)
Frank Sidell (Wymondham)

In October

Mme Louise Berenger (Paris)
J Stuart Davies (Troon)
R Leslie Dew (Peterborough)
Edna M Finn (Glen Parva)
H F C 'Fred' Izzard (Loughton)
Mrs G E Lethbridge (Salcombe)
Charles W K Potts (Lymington)
Leslie H Watts (Coningsby)

In November

Frank Kirk (Cosby)
Margaret L Lane (Stopsley)
Winifred A Mason (Shooters Hill District)
Patrick O'Brien (Strode Park & Herne)
Edward G Yeats (Budleigh Salterton)

The passing of Charles Potts, MC on 23 October was a sad loss to the Lymington Branch of Toc H and to the Toc H Movement. His adventurous life was devoted for many years to his much-loved Toc H, serving on the staff as a Councillor and as a loyal, hardworking branch member.

Charles was born at Skipworth, Yorkshire, was educated at Fettes College, Edinburgh and then spent three hilarious if disreputable years at Cambridge University. After a happy two years at Lincoln Theological College, he became curate at St Thomas's, Stockport followed by a period at Hatfield Parish Church.

He then joined the South African Railway Mission, living on an ancient four-wheeler caboose which was shunted up and down Northern Rhodesia from the Victoria Falls to the Congo Border. After an illness he returned to England as curate to St James Church, Warrington and then to Alsager Parish Church as Curate to his father.

During the war years he was an Army Chaplain but resigned this post and fought with the Buffs in the desert at Alamein and Tunis.

He married Pamela in 1944 after being invalided home and finished his military career as Assistant Chief Instructor at the Infantry OCTU in the Isle of Man. On demobilisation he became warden of the Hastings Youth Centre followed by St Peter's Youth Centre in Glasgow, the toughest assignment of his life.

In 1948 he went to Uganda as Community Welfare Officer for the Colonial Office and at the same time acting as Honorary Commissioner for Toc H, starting a branch out there and at the same time organising a variety of other social and sports activities for young people.

On returning to England he became Welfare Officer at Norwich Prison for four years, before retiring to Lymington.

Throughout his years of Toc H service, concern for youth was his top priority and his passing is a sad loss to us all. We thank God for his life.

SH

Nancy Burbidge King who died on 26 August had been a Toc H member for many years. She was instrumental in founding the Bromborough Women's Branch. Many members of Penn, Wolverhampton will remember her especially when Sheldon House, Birmingham and Alison House, Cramford were in the initial stages. She worked for the community especially in Bromborough and Merseyside Toc H, fulfilling offices locally and in the District. In June she always opened her garden/home for a very happy 'Strawberry Tea' to raise money for the Merseyside project. Until falling ill a month or two before her death she carried out her duties as usual.

LB

Enid Vaughan, who died in September, aged 65, had been a member of Leominster Joint Branch, and before that of the Women's Branch there for many years. Even after moving to Hereford she kept in touch with the Leominster Branch, and visited it often. Her many friends miss her.

Troon (Cornwall) Branch has suffered a severe blow in the passing of Stuart Davies – a founder member of the Branch in December 1940. He was for many years secretary of the Branch and conductor of the Toc H augmented male choir which delighted the Camborne District with its rendering of Cornish Carols.

He was a Methodist local preacher for many years and a member of the Methodist Church Choir for 60 years.

Always willing to help others in difficulty, his death on 28 October has left an emptiness which will be very difficult to fill.

JBS

Edward George Yeats died on 4 November aged 75 years. He had for many years suffered from ill health and during the past three months had endured a great deal of pain.

Budleigh Salterton Branch was formed in September 1954 and George took on the post of branch treasurer, a post he held for 28 years until 1982. He was succeeded by his son, Colin, which delighted George and the members.

Throughout his membership George has acted as our spokesman, and many have heard of Toc H through him. As a man and a Toc H'er one could not wish to meet a finer example of a caring Christian, we will miss him and We Will Remember Him.

WJH

Strode Park and Herne Branch has suffered another severe blow by the death of Mr Pat O'Brien.

Although a comparatively new member, Pat had already shown the qualities which made him a valuable acquisition. He was always ready to turn his hand to anything to help the branch and was giving splendid service.

Pat was a Regular Soldier for a number of years and served in India before and during the 1939-45 war.

WB

We give thanks for their lives

Prideaux House



THE OLD TOC H HOUSE
MARKS THE NEW WAY
FOR FRIENDS ANONYMOUS SERVICE

Home from home for that short break in London, near the West End, theatres, shops, museums and concerts.

Prideaux House is not a hotel, nor a boarding house, nor a hostel. It is the home of a community of people who have found their faith in God very real and relevant.

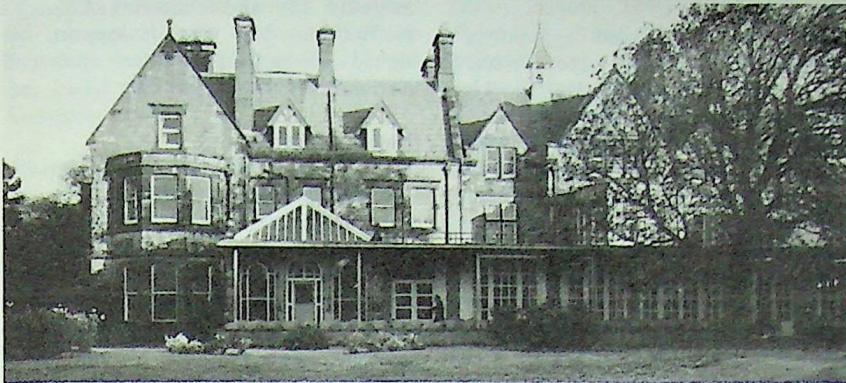
To support the work, part of our aim is to offer good quality accommodation and a homely atmosphere. Accommodation is offered in The Stanley Coulson Wing in ten single (only) rooms. Ideally suited to church, small groups or persons who want peace and quiet. (Not suitable for children, smokers and persons on specific diets.)

Each bedroom is of a very high standard of furnishing. There are good shower facilities, lounges, TV room and a chapel. Wholesome cooking is the norm, and you can relax quietly in Tubby Clayton's own room.

Further information (in writing) from:

Revd Gualter R de Mello, Prideaux House Ecumenical Centre, 10 Church Crescent, London E9 7DL.

CENTRAL COUNCIL 1986



The business of Central Council is carried out both in formal sessions and informal conversational groups away from the main hall.



Central Executive Committee Report to Central Council

National Project Development

The resolution about project development, passed by the 1985 Council, prompted the CEC to commission a major study, by Adrian Dudman, of the project situation and how best to develop it. Once this very full report has been received, the CEC set up a working party, with regional representation, to prepare for Council the resolution and an explanatory paper, which are now before it on national project development. This resolution was discussed and approved by the CEC. The working party has also been planning methods of implementing the resolution if it is passed by Council.

BAOR Policy Changes

A working party visited BAOR in February, and then reported to the CEC. After deliberations involving all three sub-committees and the Commissioner, several changes have been made. The

major decision entailed appointing a Development Officer to research opportunities for developing Toc H in Germany, thus enabling the Commissioner to concentrate on trading matters. (The Development Officer will also, if possible, implement some welfare, and will report his findings after about 18 months.) Other decisions taken involved clarifying responsibilities for BAOR between sub-committees and their links with HG and one another; setting up a BAOR Management Team, and reviewing trading targets.

New Election Procedures for Council.

A resolution at last year's Council prompted your Committee to set up procedures to enable Councillors to be accompanied at their last Council before retirement by their successors. This means that the identity of new Councillors needs to be known a year earlier. In the first year of this new

procedure this necessitated two elections, but the normal routine (albeit now taking place in respect of Councillors to take up office the following year) will be followed from 1987 onwards.

Friendship Circles.

Your committee has welcomed the growth of Toc H's involvement with the mentally ill, and following Council's reaffirmation last year of support, has agreed the appointment of a second National Development Officer.

National Centres

During the year your Committee has considered the futures of three Centres - Poperinge, Cuddesdon and Port Penrhyn. The first of these is reported on below. Regarding Cuddesdon House, the CEC has been examining options which it selected from several put to it by the Honorary Treasurer. At the September meeting it was decided that if one of these (to find another organisation to share the use and financial responsibilities) had not been agreed in principle with others by 31/12/86, then the property should be sold. It has also been decided that we should accept the principle of ceasing to provide outdoor activities and equipment at Port Penrhyn, and move towards a lock-up facility with minimum local supervision.

New Central Executive Committee



Alan Brooke



David Brougham



Don Cullen



Robin Dunford



Lois Fowler



Les Jones



Joan Nicholas



Olive Tennant



Pat Turner



Jean Whiteman



Philomena Bach



Christine Bostock



Harry Brier

Community Houses

Your Committee has produced a set of guidelines which has been circulated to all Community Houses. These have provided a useful basis for discussion regarding commitments which the Movement expected from those living there. Residents met to prepare their own paper in response which the CEC later discussed. The Director and the General Secretary are to explore with residents what the best final version of the Guidelines should be, based on the Four Points of the Compass.

Problems in the District

Some administrative difficulties have arisen during the year, caused by the apparent failure here and there of the proper District structure. The Committee asked that a Green paper be circulated. One (titled as above) was prepared in July, and has now gone to all Branches and Groups (including District Branches); Central Councillors, District Secretaries and Regional Officers. Any comments have been requested by 31/10/86.

Protection of Children

Your Committee is greatly concerned that the dangers of children being molested by volunteers working for voluntary bodies should be reduced as far as possible. To that end they asked the General Secretary to write to all Regional Chairmen in April requiring them to ensure that anyone new to Toc H work with children signed a form, duly countersigned, to the effect that they have no criminal record for any sexual offence, or offence(s) against children or young persons. This requirement covers Branch and Group activities as well as projects, ie *all* activities involving children

and people new to Toc H. Your Committee is also considering extending these requirements to cover work with people with a mental handicap.

Talbot House, Poperinge

Following the debate at last year's Council, the CEC appointed a working party to prepare a development plan for Talbot House. They submitted their report to the September meeting, outlining progress made and indicating the next steps that they believe will need to be taken. An item appears on the Council Agenda at which approval for this approach will be sought.

Toc H Could...

The CEC has provided funds to help launch this experiment in Toc H extension. Briefly the idea is to use some of those who have been active in projects for a number of years and are now looking for a new challenge as a kind of task force to help local members stimulate new Toc H growth. A pilot scheme is being launched in Suffolk and in the light of that experience decisions will be taken about developing the idea more widely.

South African Exchange

The CEC received a report on the visit by UK volunteers to South Africa in 1985. The visit was successful in introducing younger people (black and white) to Toc H in South Africa and encouraged Toc H South Africa in its work of providing opportunities for black and white to meet on equal terms. A further visit took place this year and we welcomed the first group of South African volunteers who have been participating in projects in different parts

of the country. At the time of writing these visits are still in progress, and the CEC looks forward to receiving reports in due course.

Australia Visit

In the autumn of 1985 the CEC approved a visit to Australia by John Mitchell, who was at that time the editor of 'Point Three'. He went for four weeks in November/December, culminating in attendance at the World Chain of Light in Maryborough, Queensland. John visited Toc H in all States, and reported back to the CEC. One concrete result of his visit has been that there is currently in South Australia a young volunteer, from UK, acting as a long term volunteer supported by Toc H Australia. It is hoped that more exchanges like this may be possible.

Church Action with the Unemployed

Over the last year three members of the CEC have met on four occasions with three members of CAWTU's Council, including Norman Oliver, their Director. We have established a common understanding of each organisation's work, and seen - following last year's Council resolution, that there is no practical obstacle to CAWTU affiliating to Toc H. However, the working group would recommend more co-operation at local level first, and have therefore prepared a resolution for Council's consideration which seeks to promote joint regional conferences for those interested in Christian-based work involving unemployed people. Such a conference is already being considered in the Southern Region. We are also exploring the scope for 'twinning' projects between areas of high and relatively low unemployment.

What happened at Council

For the first time for many years the Order Paper for Council was full - almost to overflowing! Resolutions abounded, some critically important, others less so, but all discussed with that mixture of fun and humour which so characterises a good Central Council.



Past and present Treasurers - Rodney Broomfield, left, and his successor, Ted Tunnadine.

The first major item to be discussed was **The Accounts**. A summary of these was published in the October issue of Point Three. The Treasurer (**Rodney Broomfield**) presented a rather different analysis of the Accounts which showed how our expenditure has been divided between Development and Servicing. This had been done at the request of Regional Treasurers, and was welcomed. This was Rodney's last opportunity to present the Movement's Accounts, and **Edgar Stickley**, in proposing the appointment of a new Treasurer, spoke for us all when he thanked Rodney for his many years of guardianship of our finances.

The Appointment of Principal Officers followed, and this year there were three. First, Council was glad to confirm the appointment of **John Mitchell** as the Director of Toc H until the end of

Central Council 1990. In his acceptance speech John spoke powerfully of the need for personal commitment from each and every member. No Movement could hope to exist simply on the basis of having a charismatic leader - Tubby had been well aware of the dangers of that course. Toc H needed the wholehearted commitment of every member. The task of the Director was to reaffirm the bedrock of Toc H, and to give encouragement to experiments which sought to express and develop the spirit of the Movement. 'We must', he said, 'be partners in the spirit and with the Spirit'.

Council also agreed the appointment of **Ted Tunnadine** to be the Movement's Treasurer in succession to Rodney Broomfield. Ted was in Australia and so not able to be present. We missed his colourful presence this year, but will

contd on p10/ 9

What happened at Council - cont.

now be able to enjoy it at least until Council 1991!

The final appointment to be agreed was that of the **Revd David Beardshaw** to be our next **National Chaplain**. David, who takes up his appointment at the beginning of April, is at the moment the Diocesan Youth Officer in the Coventry Diocese. We shall be featuring him in a later issue of Point Three.

We went on to discuss just how many Central Executive Committee members there should be for the coming year. Readers may recall that last year there were insufficient nominations to force an election - this year there were only 13 nominations, but we agreed that we would ask Councillors to elect 12 of them. Perhaps next year we shall see to it that we don't leave one person feeling left out - and the only way to do that is to have more nominations.

Each year the CEC makes a report on its activities, and this was accepted by the Council. It is reproduced in this issue.

Item 10 on the agenda was about **Talbot House**. Last year Council had heard of the difficulties facing Talbot House, arising largely out of its lack of use. It was with great pleasure that we heard this year of its increased use, and of the successful efforts which were being made to iron out some administrative problems. A Development Plan was being developed and Council was glad to receive an interim report on the progress of the plan.

The Working Party had identified its objectives as:

1. To create an effective administration system.
2. To find ways of encouraging greater use of the house.
3. To find ways of bringing the finances of the house nearer to a break even point.

Much has already been done to develop an effective administration system, and it is reasonable to hope that organisers of parties will find things going more smoothly than they had done of late. A pack giving guidance to new party leaders is close to production, and will prove most useful. Some very promising explorations about the use of the house by groups of young people are going on at the moment. Much remains to be done, but if all goes well it will be an exciting and productive development.

We were glad to hear, too, from **Jan Louagie**, who is the Belgian secretary of the Bestuuraad (Executive Committee) of the **Talbot House Association**. He assured young people especially that they would be most warmly welcomed at the House.

Noel Cornick, who is the new **President** of the Talbot House Association spoke of the debt which the Movement owes to his predecessor, **Jack Trefusis**, and his thanks to Jack received warm applause. *'The support and the impetus which is now being built up around Talbot House must go on growing'* said Noel.

CAWTU is short for **Church Action With The Unemployed**, and item 11 proposed *'that Council requests each Region to organise a Toc H/CAWTU consultation during 1987 on the state of local Christian based responses to unemployment, including the involvement of unemployed volunteers on short-term residential projects, and to report back with proposals for future development to the Central Executive Committee'*. **Norman Oliver**, who is the Director of CAWTU, said that although the talks which had taken place during the year had not achieved great material advance, a very good spirit of co-operation had grown up and he was very hopeful for the future. Other speakers welcomed the evidence which they saw in this resolution of Toc H becoming less concerned about itself and more interested in affairs beyond its own boundaries. Some discussion took place about the involvement of unemployed people in our projects programme. It is not clear at present just how new Government legislation will affect the entitlement to benefit of those who come on projects (information on this will be made available as soon as we have it. Ed). It was suggested that each Region should organise at least one project outside of school and university holidays, and aim them specifically at the unemployed. The resolution was passed.

After lunch we came to what was probably the most important resolution of the weekend, about **National Project Development**. We were reminded in the back-up paper that Central Council had passed a resolution in 1985 relating to Project Development. As a result **Adrian Dudman** had been asked to explore possible avenues of development and to present his proposals to the CEC. This he had done, engaging in wide ranging consultations, and the CEC had gone on to explore ways and means of

implementing his work. The resolution was a result of that process.

In proposing the resolution **Lois Fowler** spoke of the many opportunities which our work in projects created for the growth of Toc H and its influence. Lengthy and detailed discussion followed. A note of caution was sounded. The original resolution spoke of **National Project Development** as *'the major claim on the Movement's resources'*. This was amended to read *'a major claim. . .'* Eventually the resolution was passed unanimously.

Harold Barnes and **Bert Hill** proposed that each Region should receive a cash allocation from the Development Fund. The purpose would be to enable development of Toc H to proceed on a Regional basis. The resolution failed, but the Director reassured Councillors that good development schemes would not be allowed to fail for want of financial support.

The issue of **National Publicity** is one which is often raised in various parts of Toc H, and this year Council was given a chance to debate it. The speakers who followed proposer **Matthew Plumridge** and his seconder, **Sybil Rimmer**, all spoke against the resolution. It was felt that, on a national scale, Toc H didn't have much to publicise, and **Arthur Montgomery**, the **Fundraising and Public Relations Officer**, felt that it would not help Toc H if it were to appear to be commercialised.

At this point Council embarked upon a debate which was to run, with two adjournments, for much of the rest of the weekend. The issue was the future of **Cuddesdon House**, and it was clear that, as far as the CEC was concerned, the combination of under use of the house by Toc H and its continuing deficit were enough to cause a radical re-appraisal of our ownership and occupancy. A resolution sought to gain approval for plans to find someone with whom the building could be shared - failing that it would be sold. **Maggie Kay** and **Rodney Broomfield** put the CECs case carefully and dispassionately. The first speaker from the floor was **Mary Edwards** who spoke strongly and effectively against the resolution. At this point the debate was adjourned, since we had reached the end of the day, but on Sunday morning, at the resumption, it became clear, as one speaker after another spoke against it, that the resolution as it stood could not succeed. Eventually a major amendment was proposed by **John Bayes** and seconded by **Jack Turner**. This called for the setting up of a working party to *'explore all options for the future of Cuddesdon House and to make recommendations to the CEC for submission to Central Council in 1987'*.

This amendment succeeded. During the course of this long and difficult debate a number of speakers mentioned the need for management committees to be re-established at Centres, and although there was no resolution to this effect the new CEC has taken note of that feeling.

During the second adjournment of the debate about Cuddesdon **Robin Dunford** introduced a resolution about **Democracy in Toc H**. He was seconded by **Colin Ridgway**, and their main contention was that, with the current system of representation at Council, many members who were involved in 'new' expressions of Toc H were not adequately represented. The solution they proposed was to establish, on an experimental basis, the setting up in each Region of a Special Regional Constituency to elect Councillors to represent Action Groups, Project Groups, Friendship Circles *'or any other similar groups which might be recognised as new expressions of Toc H'*. The resolution was passed.

In 1985 the Central Executive Committee had agreed the rules for the representation of members of the Central Branch, and **Fred Davis** proposed a resolution which sought to overturn this, but Council

re-affirmed the decision of the CEC and the resolution failed.

Fred went on to propose, in a resolution about **Trustees**, that their duties should be widened and that they should be allowed to make a formal statement to Council. It was explained that, as far as the Movement as a whole was concerned, it was the Central Councillors who were the Trustees of the Movement. Those specifically called Trustees are, at the moment, Trustees of the Tubby Clayton Fund. This resolution failed.

In a final resolution **Fred Davis** made various suggestions about the way resolutions reached Council, but these, too, were rejected.

So what had been a very busy and productive weekend drew towards its close. As well as all the formal business we had had a most enjoyable beginning, led by **Adrian Dudman**, on the Friday night. He was joined in 'keeping things light' by **George Berry** and **Philip Douch** — a good Toc H evening, in fact, which **Constance Beazley** closed with prayers.

Saturday morning had begun with a guided meditation in the Chapel. Here the

leader was **Bob Knight**. **John Mitchell** has written in his notes about what were the main points for him, but for me it was the deep quality of the silence which I shall remember most of all. Later that morning **Alan Johnson** opened the Council with Prayers — his main key words, Vision and Faith. Sunday morning saw the traditional Council Communion Service, which was attended by over 100 people. As Sunday was Remembrance Day we paused at 11am to remember the dead of two World Wars and of many other conflicts. In that space many silent prayers were said for peace.

As Council had opened with an Act of Worship so it closed with one, led by **Alan Johnson** and **Bob Knight**. **Bob** ended with a graphic illustration of the spirit in which men lived in the Old House 70 years ago, which we shall remember for a long time.

It is impossible to assess the full value of this year's Council, since much will depend upon the events of the coming year. But it enjoyed the benefit of a full order paper, some good debates and, I believe, good decisions. And, it was, of course, its usually noisy, crowded, warm and friendly self!

Cuddesdon House

Plans for repairs, redecorating and gardening are once again taking shape, so watch the Project Booklet and this space for news of weekend working parties. To begin with:

27-29 March — Gardening Weekend

Please apply to **Anne Evans** at Cuddesdon House.

15-22 August — Holiday Week

Would you like to make Cuddesdon House your base for a holiday in August? Oxford, Henley, Windsor and London are all in easy reach. We can offer guests Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal, with reductions for children staying in family rooms.

We also have some spare nights throughout the year for those needing Bed and Breakfast. Please enquire not later than two weeks before you would like to come.

For further information, please contact **Anne Evans** at Cuddesdon House, Cuddesdon, Oxford OX9 9HB. Tel: 08677 (Wheatley) 2004.



Jimmy Nimmo and Agnes Suttie of Alloa Branch at a Regional Charity Fete in June, where they each won a prize in the Best Dressed Stall competition.

Toc H Training and Video Week at Lindridge House

Peter Zweck

On a Tuesday evening last August a group of six unsuspecting guests gathered at Lindridge House for what proved to be a hectic but memorable five days. Our hosts gave us a good supper and soon made us feel thoroughly at home. Philip then outlined the project on which we were to embark – to make a video tape for training purposes. This was to suggest ideas on aspects of Toc H Branch meetings, and some of the problems of leading a Project. At first, it seemed to me, we were as unlikely a bunch to succeed as could be found this side of the black stump.

We were from all walks of life and of all ages. Philip and Jane, members of staff based at Lindridge House, are young; John and Tony are mature Central Councillors; Pete is a likeable young giant and a Project Leader; Mary is a young at heart nearby Branch member; Bill is a retired engineer with a Queen's Award for Industry in his own business; and I am a retired flight engineer; but we are all active in Toc H. The filming crew, Graham and his assistant Sal, were not to arrive until Friday evening so would have their work cut out to get everything on tape by Sunday lunchtime.

On Wednesday morning we formed 'Lindridge Toc H Branch', electing Mary as Chairman and Bill as Secretary, Peter as a guest visitor, and the rest of us as ordinary members. We acted attentiveness, then we were unruly; we were polite, we were rude.



Our chairman was, in turn, tactful then dictatorial and my, for such a sweet little person, how she could be!

As an afternoon break in the sunshine, we all worked together in the garden. This is lovely and full of interest but needs a lot of loving care. After supper we took the evening off for a sightseeing tour of nearby Teignmouth.

Thursday was spent endlessly polishing up our indoor Branch scenes. We learned not to reiterate 'rhubarb' as background hubbub, inventing instead a donkey-derby discussion – nonsense that will be forever engraved on the memory! We also began rehearsing outdoor scenes on a Project. This involved making a mini 'Lecky Lake' from the marshy pool at the bottom of a very wild part of the grounds. Here we chopped trees, sickled and raked and dug and hoed and generally had fun under Philip's able directing. Naturally, young Peter was Project Leader. Mary, in her role, shed tears so real we thought they couldn't possibly be simulated – definitely star material here.

We gradually became expert at preparing meals and washing up for the multitude on a rota system, superintended by Jane whose culinary concoctions were a constant delight. Many hands and willing spirits made light work of these chores.

So the hectic days sped by enlivened by bursts of sunshine and drenching rain on the same pattern as the rest of our memorable 'summer'. If any energy remained at the end of the day some of us made starlit stumbles up the rough narrow lane to the local hostelry where the endless debates on Toc H matters continued.

On Friday evening our camera crew arrived and were briefed on our progress and scenarios. We looked in awe at the big video camera, lighting and sound recording equipment, and gulped when we really knew we were to appear on a screen and to see and hear ourselves as others do.

Despite the threat of more rain on Saturday the shooting of all the outdoor scenes was completed. When we at last repaired indoors, the heavens immediately opened and the deluge was



hardly to cease until we left after lunch on Sunday. The grouping of our indoor scenes then had to be drastically revised owing to limitations chiefly in the field of view of the camera. We also found it was not a good idea to film against the light of the big lounge window by day. Despite these upsets, progress on these scenes was good. It was a very tired cast and crew who finally got to bed in the small hours of Sunday morning. Yet some of us had enough spark remaining to play table tennis at midnight!

After Sunday breakfast we completed all the indoor shooting, and before a late lunch, had seen a run-through of all the tapes on the screen. To we shell-shocked actors the results were hilarious but we hope that, when edited, they will be of use in Toc H Branches throughout the country.

Finally, led by Jane, all of us attended a Quiet period in our hosts' upstairs sitting room where we paused to relax, reflect, listen to some quiet music and to let the feeling of family love and joy and peace spread through our minds and bodies. Then, alas, farewell.

Despite our differences in background and age we felt we had succeeded in 'Project Video' by the fellowship born through living and working together, whether or not the video itself is successful.

I daresay Philip and Jane are up to their necks in the deep waters of other projects involving people of all types and shade of opinion.

We 'stars' wish you well!

Open Forum

We reserve the right to edit letters. Only letters with full name and address will be considered for publication.

Toc H 2,000

Is it time to give Toc H a new look? Last March my branch closed down due to lack of members.

This was a very sad time for us. In 'Point Three' we read of branches closing and many celebrating up to 60 years as a Toc H branch and by the photographs all the members are elderly.

Why not finish the Movement as it is and start again with mixed branches and projects so that once again we shall be out-going and join in activities as we used to do and enjoy the wonderful friendship and fellowship that Toc H offers.

It is a sad thing to watch the Movement falling apart.

Don't wait until it is too late, act now.

Joyce L de Levante
Sevenoaks, Kent

'And another one?'

I would like to comment on the news piece under the caption of 'And another one' (Round and About, November issue) where you quote Margery Skinner's thanks to all who helped get Folkestone Branch going.

Should not this have read 'going again', because I was a member of the Branch in 1924 under the chairmanship of G P Medlicott who had been Town Mayor of Ypres and with guidance from Padre Martin, later Bishop of Liverpool, then Vicar of Christchurch.

No doubt in the intervening years the Branch closed down, no longer meeting at Gironimos Restaurant and has now celebrated a rebirth and one year's anniversary.

Every good wish to Margery and those around her.

J N Trethowan
Nutley, Sussex

Branches encouraged

Thank you to Hugh Potts for his typically encouraging and timely letter (November Point Three).

Surely he has described the special calling of older, less mobile, branches in helping to keep the Movement true to itself and to our God. What is wisdom for the branches of our Movement is wisdom for our projects also.

In these, too, there need to be 'the few', the leaders, who are clearly grounded in a personal and historical

grasp of the Main Resolution and Four Points and who are applying them, as far as they are able, in every aspect of project life. If such a standard is not applied in the selection and training of our project leaders, then the new projects development to which we are all now committed will undermine and divide, rather than renew, our Movement.

God preserve us!

David Mayhew
Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Central Council

As a newly elected Councillor for 1987 to 1990 how pleased and grateful I was to have had the opportunity to be a guest at this year's Central Council meeting. I enjoyed the experience very much, it gave me such an insight into what it is all about, so by 1987 I will know the procedure very well! The whole weekend was enjoyable and I hope others felt the same.

I look forward to my term of office very much, the friendship and fellowship makes it all worthwhile.

Betty Thatcher
Medway & Sheppey District

Forthcoming Events

January

- 5 South Eastern REC
- 10 Southern Regional Council
- 10 South Western REC
- 31 South Eastern Regional Council

February

- 14 North Wales & North West REC

March

- 1 Unemployment Sunday
- 7 Colsterdale Dance, British Legion Rooms, Huddersfield Open
- 12 South Eastern REC
- 13-15 Interfaith Weekend, Cuddesdon Open
- 14 South Western Regional Council

POPERINGE - Party Bookings 1987

The following parties will be visiting Poperinge this year:

Date Leader

May

- 9-16 Ernest Carter
- 22-24 Alan Johnson
- 25-30 Betty Cornick

June

- 1-5 John Burgess
- 12-15 Christine Bostock
- 19-21 Neville Wilkinson (for first-timers)
- 23-29 David Brougham
- 2-9 Bert Hill
- 10-12 Neville Wilkinson (for first-timers)

Date Leader

August

- 17-21 John Burgess (Project - volunteer helpers needed)
- 21-26 Betty Cornick
- 26-2 Sept Christine Bostock

September

- 7-11 Charles Huggett
- 11-12 International Youth Event
- 14-21 Adrian Dudman (already full)

October

- 9-12 Alan Johnson

If you would like to join a party please contact Ken Prideaux-Brune, Toc H Headquarters, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT, giving a choice of dates if possible.

A PERSONAL VIEW

The Oxford Round Table of Religions

Sidney Hinkes

The Revd Sidney Hinkes is the Chairman of the Oxford Round Table of Religions. Here he tells how he first became involved with members of other communities of faith, and of the work of the Round Table of Religions in Oxford.

My first experience of shared worship with a member of another faith came about by chance, and yet it would not have happened unless I had been zealous for my own religion and the performance of its duties.

At my theological college I was taught to say regularly the Morning and Evening Prayer of the Church of England Prayer Book. I was also sent on a 'Wood Badge' training course as a Scout Leader at Gilwell Park. In my patrol there was a Muslim Scouter from Singapore. Being determined to find a time and place each day for the recitation of the Divine Office, I found an unused tent and a few spare minutes. The Muslim had found it first! He too had prayers to say at set times each day. We shared our prayer times, he facing towards Mecca and I saying Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis; and we acknowledged each other's faithfulness with mutual respect.

My next step in shared worship was taken in Slough. The local community relations council was looking for new ideas and one member asked 'Why not have a harvest festival?' Plans were soon and simply made. From each faith people would bring a typical harvest gift and a reading, hymn or prayer on the theme of Harvest. The service would be followed by refreshments from the different countries of origin.

One vivid memory specially lives on from this experience. During a rehearsal a young Jewish girl looked over the shoulder of a Sikh making ready to read the *Jupji*, the Sikh morning prayer. It begins 'Thou, O Lord, art One . . .' 'Why, that's what we say' the Jewess exclaimed (referring to the Jewish 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord is one . . .'). Indeed.

In like manner the Oxford Round Table of Religions grew naturally from race

relations work. As Chairman for many years of the Oxfordshire Council for Community Relations I took an interest in the annual Vigil of Prayer for Racial Justice and Peace. This observance was started in the Anglican Cathedral in Capetown in 1967 and quickly spread throughout the world. In Oxford it used to be organised by the Oxford Council of Churches. One year I found the Vigil attended by only three people, so I complained. As a result, I was asked, as Chairman of the Community Relations Council, to organise it myself. At once and automatically the Vigil became a multi-faith observance, since the people now asked to arrange it came from a multitude of faiths.

Careful organisation and hard work went into our first multi-faith Vigil of Prayer. Two hundred people from the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim and Sikh religions crowded into the East Oxford Community Centre to offer prayers, readings and songs from their own traditions, and to share food, drink and fellowship afterwards. That was ten years ago.

As the years went by, a spirit of routine began to set in. The inter-faith prayer vigil became just one more activity to fit into a busy programme. Organisation was taken for granted and hard work was not considered necessary. Then, one year the attendance fell to six people! We had slipped back to where we came in! One of those six people, however, was a young Hindu who was dedicated to the sharing of his Hindu cultural and religious heritage with people of other faiths. He suggested a permanent organisation to ensure preparations for a strongly supported prayer vigil each year. Such an organisation, with regular meetings throughout the year, could also carry out the useful function of educating its members in the principles and practices of the different religions taking part. And so the Oxford Round Table of Religions was born. The young Hindu (Chandra Vadivale) is still the Secretary. I am still the Chairman.

The members of the Round Table of Religions meet in a circle as the name suggests. We begin our meetings with a time for silent recollection and prayer, and we close with a characteristic short prayer, reading, blessing or doxology from each religion in turn. We meet in the homes of our members, and it is usually the host for that evening who presents to the others some aspect of his/her religion. When it comes to time for questions and

discussion we soon begin to make comparisons and contrasts with other religions, especially our own. The atmosphere is not polemical. No-one is trying to score sectarian points. Understanding is the only aim.

Examples of our meetings include a film on the beautiful Bahai centre in Haifa; a practice of the Buddhist meditation of universal loving-kindness; a talk on the concept of the Trinity in the Christian religion; a talk on the personal spiritual life of the Hindu; a talk, by a Muslim woman, on the 18 Rights of Women in Islam; and a talk on the place of home and family in Judaism.

A local hospital chaplain once asked us to give him information about the attitudes to sickness, death and dying in the different religions. The notes we supplied were acknowledged to be of great usefulness to him and his colleagues. Last year, speakers were asked to tell the others about some great hero, teacher or leader of their faith other than the founder. This year our programme is based on a study of the festivals and ceremonies practised in each religion.

Sometimes we visit the temples and churches of our members' religions. We have been taken on a guided tour of the Synagogue; we have shared with the Sikhs their Spring festival of Baisakhi; we take part in the principal Hindu pujas; and the Christmas Eve carol service has become a multi-faith gathering, broadened to include the lighting of the Hanukkah candles and the reading of the story of the birth of Jesus from the Koran. One carol service was enriched by the inclusion of the joint Christian-Jewish blessing of a Hindu child. On another occasion, the two children of a mixed Jewish-Christian marriage were blessed by Jewish and Christian leaders in the chapel of the Unitarian Manchester College in Oxford.

To our October Vigil of Prayer for Racial Justice and Peace we have now added a second annual meeting for shared worship. The Royal Commonwealth Society organises a multi-faith service in Oxford's Cathedral to celebrate Commonwealth Day on the second Monday of March. The Oxford Round Table of Religions is happy to give all the support of which it is capable. We are grateful to the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church for their gracious hospitality on these occasions, and to our former Bishop Patrick Rodger for his presence and support at the service



Newport Carnival was graced with the presence of the Toc H Brownies and Guides – and there was a bee among the flowers in Contrary Mary's garden!

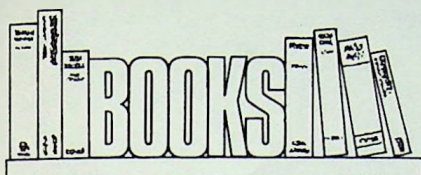
Easter at Alison House

16 April (Maundy Thursday) -
19 April (Easter Day)

with
The Revd Alan Johnson and
The Revd Colin Rudd

Cost: £41.40

This will be a relaxed and reflective few days when we consider the events of Holy Week and Easter. There will be time both to explore the countryside and for quiet thought. For further details, please write to: The Revd C R Rudd, Toc H HQ, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT.



'Dangerous Families' – Assessment and Treatment of Child Abuse

Peter Dale with Murray Davies,
Tony Morrison & Jim Waters

A major contribution to the professional issues involved with child abuse is made today with the publication of a new book – 'Dangerous Families'.

Written by Peter Dale, with Murray Davies, Tony Morrison and Jim Waters of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, *Dangerous Families* presents the pioneering work of the NSPCC Child Protection Team in Rochdale and represents an authoritative study of the assessment and treatment of families where serious or repeated child abuse has occurred.

The book tackles crucial issues in the professional context of child abuse and outlines the complex child care legal situation, risk factors and important therapeutic principles.

annually up to his retirement this year. Our two multi-faith services also enjoy the formal support, given after careful thought and debate, of the Oxford Council of Churches.

In conclusion two points need to be made. One is that we have discovered that we are not so much engaged in 'inter-faith dialogue' as 'dialogue between people of different faiths'. The other is that one of the religions that we understand better as a result of this dialogue is our own.

Regular case examples illustrate significant assessment issues, and the indicators for and against rehabilitation of children who have been abused.

A detailed case study follows through the assessment of a young mother who was considered by the various professionals involved to present an extreme danger to her young baby.

Principal author, Peter Dale, now Team Leader of the NSPCC East Sussex Child Protection Team said: 'Professional contact with abusing families often arouses acute personal anxieties and professional uncertainty as to how services aimed at protecting children and promoting change in their parents can be consistently provided.

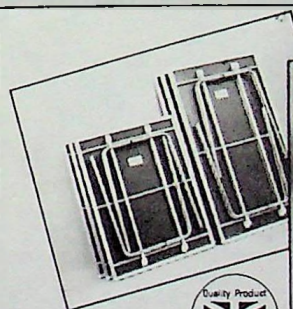
'The book illustrates through the use of small "therapeutic teams" and a structured assessment model, that

professional agencies can promote change with families who may have been considered to be "unhelpful".

'An important theme of this book is the way in which social agencies can play a pathological role in unintentionally contributing to and maintaining child abusing dynamics in families.'

'*Dangerous Families*' presents a major change in respect of professional intervention with child abusing families and will be of enormous value to practitioners of all disciplines as well as informed and concerned members of the public.

'*Dangerous Families*' (Tavistock Publications), 240 pages. Hardback £18.95 paperback £7.95 available from bookshops and Tavistock Publications, 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE.



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TOC H MARAFUN

Event to be held on

Sunday, 3 May 1987 at

Trent Park, Cockfosters, Nr Barnet, Herts

Tube – Piccadilly Line

Commencing at 11am - finishing at 4pm

Aim: To raise urgently needed funds for Toc H and other charitable organisations

Yet again we enjoyed a successful Marafun that was organised last year. We have decided to repeat the event this year, but on a much grander scale; it has also been decided that the money which will be raised by sponsorship will be split between Toc H and other charities.

Fun-Carnival Fancy Dress - Face Paints

It is hoped that this will be a most enjoyable day with entry being open to everyone, as well as those intending to complete part or full marathons. Applications are expected from a much wider cross-section of people to include those from handicapped and disabled organisations as well as those, for example, who may take part in a 'bed-push' or 'wheelchair-push' on the tarmac course which is available. It is also hoped that schools, youth clubs, TAG and Toc H Action Groups and other young peoples' organisations will take part to raise funds for their activities.

Help is needed to find participants. All Branches and Youth Groups are invited to attend. Entry and sponsorship forms are being distributed via Toc H Branches in the immediate area, or can be obtained from Dorothy Daniels, 5 Alvuhera Close, Enfield EN2 8NR, telephone 01-367-1921.

Please give this your support

Small Ads

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) five weeks before publication day, which is the 23rd of the preceding month. The charge is 5p a word (minimum 50p) plus VAT, to Point Three Magazine. Rates of display advertisements can be obtained from the Editorial Office, Toc H, 1 Forest Close, Wendover. Telephone: 0296 623911.

Hythe, Kent, luxury six berth caravan, fully equipped, situated on pleasant sight with Club House. Buses for Hythe Town Centre, Dover, etc stop at sight. Fully fitted with gas fire, cooker, fridge, shower, WC, TV, radio. £50 per week including gas/electric. Contact: Tony Cock, 7 Tournay Close, Lympne, Hythe, Kent CT21 4LL. Tel: 0303 69407.

Raise funds quickly, easily. Superb ball-pens, combs, key fobs, diaries, etc gold stamped to your requirements. Details: Northern Novelties, Bradford BD1 3HE.

Holidays at Falmouth Toc H House, 12 Lister Street. £55 per week. Accommodation for five plus cot. Available whole year (excluding week 8-15 August). Gatiss. Tel: 0326 (Falmouth) 312689.

Christian Singles. Social events, nationwide. Friendship contacts, weekend houseparties, fellowship groups. Holidays, Home/abroad. Christian Friendship Fellowship, Dept B23, Edenthorpe, Doncaster.